

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) ~~Longwall~~A longwall support control for controlling the movements of longwall support units in the longwall of a mine, ~~with~~ comprising:

a central control system~~;~~; and

~~with a plurality of control units, of which a separate control unit (mining shield control device) is locally and operationally associated to each longwall support unit,~~with the mining shield control devices connecting to the central control system and to one another by means of at least one bus line, through which each of the mining shield control devices can be called up from the central control system or an adjacent mining shield control device for inputting a control command, and with each mining shield control device being programmed such that it is possible to deliver for execution to the mining shield control device, control commands that come in are received via the bus line, and which each store a code word associated tewith the respectively called up mining shield control device,
~~characterized in that the mining shield control devices connect via an identical, second bus line (parallel bus) to the central control system and to one another,~~
~~and that~~

wherein the mining shield control device is devices connect via a parallel bus line to the central control system and to one another, and the mining shield control devices are programmed such that signals that come in are received via one of the bus lines, and which do not store a code word associated tewith the respectively called up mining shield control device, are retransmitted to the adjacent mining shield control device.

2. (currently amended) ~~Longwall~~The longwall support control of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the mining shield control device comprises an amplifier for the signals that do not store a code word assigned to the respectively called up mining shield control device, and which ~~come in~~ are received via at least one of the ~~two~~ bus lines.

3. (canceled)

4. (new) The longwall support control of claim 1, wherein each mining shield control device comprises a switching element, which permits separating a phase conductor of at least one of the bus lines.